AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

Method and apparatus for detecting whether router status information sent from a first router is unreliable, includes structure and/or steps for storing a router status database. Structure and/or steps are provided for receiving a first signal corresponding to a first router status message sent by the first router, the first router status message containing router status information indicative of the status of communication between the first router and a second router. ~~Structure and/or steps are also provided for comparing the received first signal with a second signal stored in the router status database, the second signal corresponding to a second router status message sent by the second router, the second router status message containing router status information indicative of the status of communication between the second router in the first router.~~ Further, structure and/or steps are provided for issuing an alarm signal if the signal comparison reveals that the first and second router status messages contain non-complementary router status information. ~~Preferably, unreliable or compromised router/switches are quickly detected because any router communicating with the unreliable/compromised router will not report the same router updates as the unreliable/compromised router.~~ Such information can be flooded through the network to isolate the unreliable/compromised router.